

## FROM ACROSS THE SEA

**LATEST HINTS ON MEN'S ATTIRE**  
**FROM LONDON.**

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**Postponement of Coronation Caused  
Sudden Change in Sartorial Program**  
**—The Gray and Black Legend.**

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From London Correspondent of *Haberdsasher*.

The king's illness, and the complete oversetting of all the arrangements made for the coronation—a contretemps as unprecedented as the pageant which would have exceeded in magnificence—even in a certain barbaric magnificence—anything ever seen, have necessarily exercised an influence unmistakably powerful upon the trade in masculine costume. We were, at the time fixed for the crowning and installment of our king-emperor, on the brink of a great revival of color in male dress. The sun of this summer was to have shone upon a chromatic awakening such as for many a month we have not seen. The king fell ill. In a moment we were all in black and white or gray again.

**Averse to Change.**

Of course our national conservatism and dislike of change had something to do with the sudden abandonment of the expected change. Englishmen are so averse

from any alteration, that even when all influences have worked together to produce one, a very little thing is needed to give a preference to the other style. So happened in 1843, that, for more than a century before, the color of Queen Victoria in 1800, the most popular hue in male fashion was a cold steel gray. There were signs just then—in the dress of the nobles and the people—with an overrunning pattern of colored silk—that color was coming back. The queen's death gave a sudden and overpowering impetus to the movement. The mourning decoration went spontaneously into mourning, from the richest to the poorest classes, was one of the most touching evidences of her popularity. The period of mourning passed away, first gray and then black and white had a long run of fashion. At coronation time, even, the royal robes were colored. It was not until the full ceremonial day dress suit would, as I said here, have had no colors in it. But as soon as the coronation marked the end of the mourning period, something showed that colors would come in. The king's illness gave them an immediate setback. But, now that this illness has subsided, and the king is again on his feet, the surgeons have just announced the royal safety, and bulletins will shortly be official.

**New Ties.**

The first actual sales have already been made, and the West End windows are full of colored cravats. But so far as actual town wear is concerned, the movement is still limited. The most conspicuous novelties of the day are the white ascot, worn with a turquoise pin, and the white Alpine—that, Plain, dead white—not cream color—is the color. The new ascot is generally made of silk, and sometimes also a variety of silks and mercerized washing stuffs in what is called rather aptly, white and white—that is, white with a very slight tinge of cream and a very slight change of texture. The pattern does not go very far beyond plain lines and bars.

The white Alpine hat is bound with white ribbed silk, and has a ribband of the same material. But plain gray Alpines are also much worn, and both are of a new shape—the crown rather narrow, the brim narrow. White dogskin gloves are also much in evidence for day wear.

**White-Topped Shoes.**

Another novelty is a white-topped calf or even patent leather shoe, which looks better than might be expected, and has much the effect of the old white linen spats, which are also worn in preference to the new shoe by men who do not care for the expense of shoes which soon soil and cannot well be revived. But white tops to gaiters look much neater than any kind of gaiters.

Although I have just spoken of patterns or white cravats, the tendency of the latter, and of the white cravatted coats, is against pattern altogether. The colored cravats on show are nearly all patternless, and my own favorite, "China crabs," is having quite a vogue. The flannel suits that are being very largely ordered for country wear this summer are nearly all plain gray. Many men are wearing gray flannel suits and blue or black over their black frock coats. Fancy waistcoats are no longer fanciful; they are all being made of plain gray or blue-gray flannel.

### Gray Frock Coats.

But the universal reign of the black frock coat has with great suddenness given way to our old friend the gray frock coat, and

thing coats are being made of gray cashmere; in fact, the gray than the frock coat. The latter is of every color, not too light, as a rule; there is also a much lighter frock coat of the pearl tone once so extremely fashionable. This frock coat is cut fuller than recent black ones, and is built to allow the wearer to wear worn open, but with a twin button in the top buttonholes to keep it together out of doors. The neck opening of this and of all coats is built to allow the neck of the skirts are only of moderate fullness; the buttons are covered with the cashmere of the garment itself, and the facings are of very dark material. The trousers and the trousers match the coat (although a Holland waistcoat, double-breasted and with a large collar, can be worn). Where the waistcoat is worn, it is of the same material and has only a small collar. The trousers are made to snug below the knee, and are of moderate fullness. The same rule, mutatis mutandis, apply to the gray morning outfit.

**A Novelty in Coats.**

These, as I have indicated, are the regular rules. But there is a novelty, not yet fully introduced, but worthy of notice, which I must describe. It is very smart

and decidedly exclusive, and it will never become vulgarized by being run into the ground by the crowd, because it is far from being a commonplace sight. Silvery gray frock coat and waistcoat, bound with a narrow, dull silk braiding, introduced just when brand on black coats and waistcoats is being worn.

This coat and waistcoat have certain subtle differences of cut. The coat is tighter in the waist than other frock coats, and it has a more pronounced shoulder. The trousers are single and have four buttons. The waistcoat is single-breasted, cut moderately high in the neck, and has the bottom ends of the trousers tucked into it, and comes all the way down, and cut with a good deal of hollow over the instep. There is suggested a modification of this coat and waistcoat in the trousers, which are of black instead of matching the casimers of the garments, but I doubt if this will really come to anything.

### Modified Wing Collar.

Another novelty which I have been the first to announce is a curious modification of the wing collar. It is two inches high and the wings are shaped, instead of being straight, so that they will fit snugly about the throat, thus saving the trouble of putting out the linen in such a way that, when

faat, with the stud-tails extended, the oblong wings extend beyond the latter, but the hind legs are ironed back so as to leave an average space of an inch in the throat. The corners are all very, very slightly rounded, no more.

The high silk hat is hardly worn at all in the evening, and is usually an Alpine-shaped Panama is not thought at all out of the way at night, but a gray felt Alpine is worn. The old opera hat or the high silk, however, will come in occasionally, but not too hot weather. The coat for evening dress usually worn—for no one here goes about in evening dress, despite the terribly hot weather—is a black cloak of the military sort—is a black cloak of the military pattern, fastening with a chain and hook, with the collar only, and of course made in a light weight.

**Curious Sights.**

Some curious sights are seen, in the way of tired suits, on all English race courses. A conspicuous figure among the book-makers who affect these strange garments by a burly individual who wears across his chest, from shoulder to hip (just like the blue ribbon of the Order of the Garter), a

## A DIFFERENCE IN BACHELORS.

The American and the Korean Contrasted.

from the New York Tribune.

The matron was disgusted with the bachelor. There was no doubt about it. She said she was.

For the fourth time he had foiled her most skillful efforts at matchmaking. She had given him every opportunity to fall in love with four girls, each one of whom was a prize. They would have taken him, too, had he asked them the all-important question, for he was decidedly a "catch." But he was happy in his single life and did not want to be taken.

"I wash my hands of you," she said. "Never again, never, shall I introduce you to another girl, and I hope you may never know the happiness of being married to a charming woman."

"I second that hope with all my heart," he added, smiling.

She glared.

"I wish you had been born a Korean," he cried.

"Can't second that proposition," he replied. "A Korean birth is good enough for me. But why a Korean? Surely you would not have me a pigmy, that you might beat the natives?"

"I wouldn't touch you," she answered, tartly; "but if you had been a Korean you could forget this bachelor madness. Until you had married you would have to wear a hair in a braid, keep quiet in company and be well to do right as a man. That would bring you to time quickly enough."

"I'm not so sure," he said. "Let us see what rights come to the Korean by marriage. He can put his hair on top of his head, he can squat instead of sitting down properly and he can jabber away in company."

"But you forget that until married he must smoke tobacco."

She knew that was a telling shot. Had he not been punctuating his remarks with

"If I were a Corcan I would certainly narry." "Brute!" she cried, as he left her.

### THE CAT IN SUMMER.

**Better Kill the Household Pet Than Turn It Adrift.**

from the Boston Herald.

What are you going to do with your cat this summer? Has he enlisted, or doesn't he want to fight anything worse than feline rivals? For any rate, don't leave him to forage for himself when the time comes to shut up the house and go away till the schools begin again. Pets will always be provided for, but the "Kitchen cat," as he has been termed, is pretty sure to be turned adrift, unless somebody is merciful enough to have it put out of existence.

Far better to kill the poor creature than to leave it to starve, wandering about the streets and back streets. The well-cared-for puss may hate being transported to strange places, but with a little care he soon accustoms himself to the change of scene and is as happy as a king.

It is a satisfaction to note how many more people carry their cats into the country than happened to be the case a few years ago. Since the city of boarding them out, or, worse still, of simply leaving them, has been brought to their attention, much greater consideration is shown to the household pet. Let it be said that kindness to helpless dumb animals always pays; at least, it is believed that the average human is fond of a puss which will give him a little time and thought to their welfare. There are various ways of traveling with dogs and cats, but as the latter are so amenable to all the methods and so timid and nervous it is usually deemed best to shut them up in a basket. The consequence is the cat nearly dies of terror and starvation.

The best method of inuring the creature to rapid transit is to put him in a bag, with his head out. Then he can see where he is

made futile. Tragic and ridiculous are often the experiences of the best intentioned chief owner, for it must be confessed it is difficult to find an animal with such a nervous organization, and one would rather manage a case of hysteria than a frightened feline. Both emotions are uncontrollable through reason.

**MILITARY FORCE OF JAPAN.**

Equipped, Organized and Drilled Like European Armies.

From the Philadelphia Times.

The Japanese army is equipped, organized and drilled like a European army and many of its officers have received their education in European countries. Conscription was introduced into Japan in 1874 and the regulations now in force were adopted in 1893. Every male citizen serves the military service and all men over twenty years of age are liable to serve for seven years in the active army, four years in the first reserve, five years in the territorial army and seven years in the national army or the second reserve. For the year 1901-02 the Japanese army consisted of seven divisions of twenty-four brigades of infantry, each brigade composed of two regiments of three battalions each.

The cavalry comprises seventeen regiments or fifty-one squadrons. The artillery has nineteen regiments or 114 field and mountain batteries. The engineers have two hundred and twenty-eight companies and will soon have thirty-nine. The army service corps has thirteen battalions of two companies, with one battery and one battalion (three companies) of telegraph troops. Besides the thirteen divisions of infantry there are three regiments of coast guards and two battalions of foot artillery and a special brigade of four battalions of infantry, cavalry, artillery and engineers (the Fusso brigade).

There are 13,616 officers and 135,553 men on a peace footing. The war strength is 592,220 men and 1,008 guns, the reserves being excluded. When it is remembered that the Japanese have shown the Japanese army to be of first-rate quality it is obvious that the military power of the new nation of the Pacific is formidable.

Charles Barker, formerly a leading merchant and banker of Luddington, Michigan, died yesterday, aged sixty years.